

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? Plainview

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☐ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☒ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

I-083-001

The importance of using existing easements / routes  
52 Hwy ? Interstate 90.

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

### I-083-001

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

- ☐ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

I-083-002

We already have a pipeline easement  
We have Bald eagles, migrating birds, wildlife  
in our woods

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

I-083-003

For our area - Mazeppa Township - it is  
affecting much woodland that homes eagles,  
deer, migrating birds, trout stream.

I-083-004

We also have a ski hill in the area that  
the current plans runs the high lines right  
through. Many people use this area to  
fish, hunt, hike, ski. We also have a lot of agricultural  
land; this proposed line taking up valuable  
land.

### I-083-002

Your comment has been noted. Cumulative Impacts will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

RUS anticipates that the CapX2020 Utilities would pay for land rights based on an independent appraisal and will work with property owners to negotiate easement payments after the permitting process.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

### I-083-003

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to wildlife will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

### I-083-004

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to recreational resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-083-005

I think it is being explained in a way that promotes Xcel's agenda. This is a horrible route plan; it crosses properties, hurts families' property values when existing routes are already established. We need to make sure Xcel is doing this responsibly w/ taking into account all of the people it is affecting along w/ not choosing the least expensive route; promoting it as the best route.

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Jill Draayer

Representing (Optional):

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Daytime Phone (Optional): 651-564-0839

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-083-005

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.